

Remarks/Arguments

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the subject application as amended herein. This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed February 27, 2009. Claims 1-31 are rejected.

In this amendment, claims 1, 9, 16, and 24 have been amended. No claims have been canceled or added. It is respectfully submitted that the amendment does not add new matter.

Applicants reserve all rights with respect to the applicability of the Doctrine of Equivalents.

Examiner Interview

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of the telephone interview of May 5, 2009. The Examiner agreed that better defining what the mobile-originated message is for, and how it will be used, would be a good approach to overcoming the current rejections. A summary of that interview was previously submitted.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejects claims 1-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hatch (U.S. Patent No. 7,116,994) in view of Widger et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,068,772, hereinafter "Widger").

Hatch describes a system where a user's short message service (SMS) message is converted and delivered to an email address (Hatch, column 2, line 28-42). When a user intends to travel to a location where their mobile phone will not work, they may manually register their phone with a mobile phone operator and provide an email address (Hatch, column 2, lines 43-59). The mobile operator intercepts a text message destined for the user, converts the text message to an email message, and then sends the email message to the user's email address providing during registration (Hatch, column 2, line 60 to column 3, line 17).

Widger describes a system for routing voice calls via 1-800 networks. When a user places a call, the destination number is captured by a local controller (Widger, column 8, lines 1-15). The local controller then initiates a 1-800 call to a central server. The central server then uses the captured destination number to further route the initial

call to destination via 1-800 networks, voicemail boxes, voice automated services, etc. (Widger, column 8, lines 19-50).

Amended claim 1 recites:

A messaging address system for facilitating interaction between mobile subscribers and message-based applications, said system comprising:
a communications network; and
a message center system coupled to said communications network, said message center system comprising:
a processor configured to automatically:
associate destination addresses with corresponding data network addresses for a plurality of different message-based applications; said destination addresses formatted in accordance with a standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan,
receive a mobile-originated message generated by a subscriber wireless device; said mobile-originated message including a destination address for a message-based application,
translate said mobile-originated message's destination address into its corresponding data network address, and
send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by the message-based application to perform a function based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device.

(Emphasis Added)

Applicants respectfully submit that a combination of Hatch and Widger do not teach or suggest "a processor configured to automatically: associate destination addresses with corresponding data network addresses for a plurality of different message-based applications ... and send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by the message-based application to perform a function based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device," as claimed.

As discussed above, Hatch teaches a system where a user's short message service (SMS) message is converted and delivered to an email address (Hatch, column 2, line 28-42). When a user intends to travel to a location where their mobile phone will not work, they may register their phone with a mobile phone operator and provide an email address (Hatch, column 2, lines 43-59). The mobile operator intercepts text

messages destined for the user, converts the text message to an email message, and sends the email message to the user's email address (Hatch, column 2, line 60 to column 3, line 17). Thus, Hatch merely converts text messages for delivery as email when specifically instructed to do so. The contents of the converted text message, however, are irrelevant in Hatch as each received message results in an email being created and delivered to the registered email address. Converting a text message (e.g. a single message type) to another message type (e.g. email) and delivering the message as an email, as taught by Hatch, does not teach or suggest "a processor configured to automatically: associate destination addresses with corresponding data network addresses for a plurality of different message-based applications ... and send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by the message-based application to perform a function based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device," as recited in claim 1, as amended.

Widger teaches a system for routing voice calls via 1-800 networks. When a user places a call, the destination number is captured by a local controller (Widger, column 8, lines 1-15). The local controller then initiates a 1-800 call to a central server. The central server then uses the captured destination number to further route the initial call to a destination via 1-800 networks, voicemail boxes, voice automated services, etc. (Widger, column 8, lines 19-50). Thus, Widger teaches a system that routes only voice calls to various destinations, in voice format, based on a dialed number. However, Widger fails to teach or suggest "a processor configured to automatically: associate destination addresses with corresponding data network addresses for a plurality of different message-based applications ... and send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by the message-based application to perform a function based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device," as claimed.

Therefore, a combination of Hatch and Widger does not teach or suggest "a processor configured to automatically: associate destination addresses with corresponding data network addresses for a plurality of different message-based applications ... and send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by the message-based application to perform a function

based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device," and fails to render claim 1 as amended, and the claims that depend therefrom, obvious.

Amended claim 9 recites in part:

A messaging address system for facilitating interaction between mobile subscribers and message-based applications, said system comprising:

a plurality of message-based applications coupled to said data network; each message-based application having a data network address associated therewith;

a subscriber wireless device coupled to said wireless network, said subscriber wireless device for generating a mobile-originated message having a destination address associated therewith; said destination addresses formatted in accordance with a standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan; and

a message center system coupled to said data network and said wireless network; said message center system comprising:

a routing table of destination addresses associated with corresponding data network addresses,

a processor configured to automatically:

receive a mobile-originated message having a destination address for a message-based application,

access said routing table to translate said mobile-originated message's destination address into its corresponding data network address, and

send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by a message-based application to perform a function based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device.

(Emphasis Added)

As discussed above, with respect to claim 1, Hatch and Widger do not teach or suggest "a processor configured to automatically: associate destination addresses with corresponding data network addresses for a plurality of different message-based applications ... and send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by the message-based application to perform a function based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device." Because claim 9 claims in part "a plurality of message-based applications coupled to said data network; each message-based application having a data network address associated therewith" and "a processor configured to automatically: receive a mobile-originated message having a destination address for a message-based application,... and send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by a

message-based application to perform a function based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device," claim 9, and the claims that depend therefrom, are not obvious over the combination of Hatch and Widger.

Amended claim 16 recites:

In a communication network, a method for facilitating interaction between mobile subscribers and message-based applications, said method comprising the steps of:
 associating destination addresses with corresponding data network addresses for a plurality of different message-based applications; said destination addresses formatted in accordance with a standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan;
 receiving a mobile-originated message having a destination address for a message-based application;
 translating said mobile-originated message's destination address into its corresponding data network address; and
 sending said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by the message-based application to perform a function based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device.

(Emphasis Added)

As discussed above, with respect to claim 1, Hatch and Widger do not teach or suggest "a processor configured to automatically: associate destination addresses with corresponding data network addresses for a plurality of different message-based applications ... and send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by the message-based application to perform a function based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device." Because claim 16 claims in part "associating destination addresses with corresponding data network addresses for a plurality of different message-based applications ... and sending said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by the message-based application to perform a function based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device," claim 16, and the claims that depend therefrom, are not obvious over the combination of Hatch and Widger.

Amended claim 24 recites:

In a communications network, a method for facilitating interaction between mobile subscribers and message-based applications, said method comprising:
 generating a mobile-originated message using a mobile subscriber device, said mobile-originated message having a destination address; said

destination addresses formatted in accordance with a standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan; and
at a message center system automatically:
receiving said mobile-originated message having a destination address associated therewith for one of a plurality of different message-based applications;
accessing a routing table of destination addresses having associated data network addresses;
translating said mobile-originated message's destination address into its corresponding data network address; and
sending said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by a message-based application to perform a function based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device.

(Emphasis Added)

As discussed above, with respect to claim 1, Hatch and Widger do not teach or suggest "a processor configured to automatically: associate destination addresses with corresponding data network addresses for a plurality of different message-based applications ... and send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by the message-based application to perform a function based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device." Because claim 24 claims in part "at a message center system automatically: receiving said mobile-originated message having a destination address associated therewith for one of a plurality of different message-based applications; and sending said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by a message-based application to perform a function based on the message received from the subscriber wireless device," claim 24, and the claims that depend therefrom, are not obvious over the combination of Hatch and Widger.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hatch in view of Widger.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that in view of the amendments and discussion set forth herein, the applicable rejections have been overcome. Accordingly, the present and amended claims should be found to be in condition for allowance.

If a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Judith A. Szepesi at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges/credits, please charge/credit our deposit account no. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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